

Remarks

Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

All of the rejected claims have been cancelled, i.e. claims 1-24 and 32-54.

The only other claims remaining in the application are claims 25-31, which the Examiner indicates are allowed.

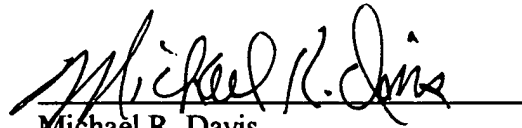
Applicants emphasize that cancellation of the rejected claims is without prejudice to their rights to file a continuing application for the subject matter of these claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the ground of rejection set forth by the Examiner has been overcome, as a result of which the present application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Minoru TERANO et al.

By:



Michael R. Davis

Registration No. 25,134

Attorney for Applicants

MRD/pth
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
September 24, 2003